when relatively high barometric pressure and variable winds low pressure. Off the coast of the United States fog attended prevailed in that locality. In instances areas of low pressure the passage of an area of low pressure over the valley and Gulf passed eastward from the American continent attending of Saint Lawrence on the 27th and 28th; on the 17th a storm whose advance no fog has been reported. Between the fiftyfifth and sixty-fifth meridians the development of fog attended tic states and a dense fog was reported off the coast south of the presence to the northward or northwestward of areas of Sandy Hook.

of great violence passed northeastward over the middle Atlan-

TEMPERATURE OF THE AIR (expressed in degrees, Fahrenheit).

and Canada for December, 1888, is exhibited on chart ii by dotted south Atlantic, and west Gulf states, in the Ohio and upper isotherms. In the table of miscellaneous meteorological data the monthly mean temperatures and the departures from the normal are given for stations of the Signal Service. The figures opposite the names of the geographical districts in the columns for mean temperature show the averages for the several districts. The normal for any district may be found by adding the departure to the current mean when the departure is below the normal and subtracting when above.

The mean temperature was highest over southern Florida. where a reading of 67°.1 was noted at Key West. rising above 55° were reported over Florida, south of the thirtieth parallel, along the coast of Texas, in the lower Rio Grande valley, along the south coast of California, in the extreme southwestern part of Arizona, and at stations near the west-central coast of California. The lowest mean temperature occurred in Manitoba, where it ranged to 12° at Fort Garry. Values falling below 20° were reported over northern New Brunswick, in the lower Saint Lawrence valley, northern Ontario, northern Minnesota and Dakota, and northeastern Montana. The mean temperature also ranged below 20° at stations in southwestern Wyoming, northwestern Colorado, and the extreme northeastern part of Utah.

The mean temperature was above the normal over a greater portion of the country, the greatest departures above the normal being noted in Montana and Dakota, where, at stations, they amounted to more than 15°. From this region they become gradually less marked eastward to the Canadian Maritime Provinces, southward to the Rio Grande Valley and the Gulf of Mexico, and westward to the Pacific coast. The mean temperature was slightly below the normal within an area extending from southeastern Arizona and southwestern New Mexico northwestward to north-central California, while to the southward of a line traced from the coast of Virginia southwestward to the Gulf coast between New Orleans, La., and Galveston, Tex., the departures below the normal gradually increased southward to the southern extremity of Florida. where they amounted to more than 4°.

The following are some of the most marked departures from the normal at the older established Signal Service stations:

Above normal.	Below normal.				
Poplar River, Mont. Fort Totten, Dak. Minnedosa, N. W. T. Moorhead, Minn Bismarck, Dak	16.2 15.4 12.3 12.2 10.2	Key West, Fla. Jacksonville, Fla. Bavannah, Ga. Wilmington, N. C. Keeler, Cai	4·2 3·4 3·3 2·2 2·2		

MAXIMUM AND MINIMUM TEMPERATURES.

The highest temperatures for the month were reported in the lower Rio Grande valley, where they rose above 80°. Values above 75° were noted over the southern half of Florida,

The distribution of mean temperature over the United States | The most notable deficiencies occurred in the middle Atlantic, Mississippi valleys, the upper lake region, the southern plateau and southeastern slope of the Rocky Mountains, where, at stations, the maximum temperatures were 10°, or more, below the maximum values for the corresponding month of previous years.

The lowest temperatures were reported in northwestern Minnesota, central Montana, southern Wyoming, and north-eastern Utah, where they fell below —10°, the lowest reading, -16°, being noted at Saint Vincent, Minn. The minimum temperatures fell below zero in northern New England and northern New York, and north of a line traced from northeastern Minnesota southwestward into Colorado, and thence irregularly northwestward to western Montana. They were below 32°, except in Florida south of the twenty-eighth parallel, along and near the west Gulf coast, in western California, and along the immediate north Pacific coast. Unusually low temperatures have not been reported, and at a large majority of stations they were considerably above the lowest readings previously noted for December, notably in the upper Mississippi and upper Missouri valleys, the upper Lake region, and the middle-eastern slope and the plateau regions of the Rocky Mountains, where, at stations, the minimum readings were more than 30° above the December records of previous

RANGES OF TEMPERATURE.

The monthly and the greatest and least daily ranges of temperature at Signal Service stations are given in the table of miscellaneous meteorological data. The greatest monthly ranges occurred over southwestern Dakota, northeastern Montana, and the intermediate territory, where they exceeded From this region the ranges gradually decreased westward to the Pacific coast, where they amounted to less than 20° at the mouth of the Columbia River, southward to the Gulf coast, where they were less than 35° near Galveston, Tex., and eastward to Michigan, where they were less than 350 along the east coast of Lake Michigan. From this locality they increased to more than 55° over northern New England, from whence they decreased somewhat irregularly to southern Florida, where a range of less than 30° was noted at Key West. Along the Pacific coast the monthly ranges varied from less than 20° over the southwestern part of Washington Territory, to more than 35° in the vicinity of Los Angeles, Cal.

The following are some of the extreme monthly ranges:

Greatest.	Least.				
Poplar River, Mont	68 Fort Canby, Wash 15 5 San Francisco, Cal 2 4 Red Bluff, Cal 2 5 Key West, Fla 2 6 San Diego, Cal 2 2 Grand Haven, Mich 3				

DEVIATIONS FROM NORMAL TEMPERATURES.

The following table shows for certain stations, as reported at several points in Texas south of the thirtieth parallel, at by voluntary observers, (1) the normal temperature for a series yuma, Ariz., and Los Angeles, Cal. At Des Moines, Iowa, of years; (2) the length of record during which the observa-Saint Paul, Minn., Yankton, Dak., Boisé City, Idaho, and tons have been taken, and from which the normal has been Roseburgh Oreg the maximum temperatures many higher than the contractions are reported. Roseburgh, Oreg., the maximum temperatures were higher than computed; (3) the mean temperature for December, 1888; (4) for any preceding December during the periods of observation. the departure of the current month from the normal; (5) and

the extreme monthly means for December during the period of observation and the years of occurrence:

State and Station. County. State and Station. State and Station. County. County.										
Arkansaa			fe	ofrecord.	or Dec.,		(5) Extreme monthly mean temperature for December.			
Arkansaa	State and Station.	County.	흡숙	gtp	188	artu	1	ł	ند	
Arkansaa			50	e	8	J en	l sp	يز	89	142
Boone			3	<u>(S</u>	(3)	3	H	Year	Į.	₹ S
Secramento				Year						
Colorado	California.	_	36.8	7	59.6	+2.8	44.5	1881	29.	1 1884
Connecticut Middlesex 28.3 20 31.7 +3.4 33.2 1865 21.8 1877 1870	_ Colorado.	ļ	47.0	36	46.2	-0.8	51.0	1861	39.	1874
Dakota Fort Randall Todd 20.4 31 27.7 7.3 31.6 1881 3.5 1884 Merritt's Island Georgia 48.8 14 49.3 -0.5 56.7 1879 39.8 1896 Section 1897 Section 1898 Section	Connecticut.		27.9	21	34.9	+7.0	39.6	1867	17.7	1878
Merritt's Island Greyard Gi.9 5 59.5 7.4 G4.9 1884 58.0 1885 Forsyth Georgia 48.8 14 49.3 -0.5 56.7 1879 39.8 1876	Dakota.	į	28.3	20	31.7	+3.4	33-2	1865	21.8	1872
Forsyth	Florida.		20.4	31	27.7	+7.3	31.6	1881	3.5	1880
Peoria	Georgia.	Brevard	61.9	5	59-5	-2.4	64.9	1884	58.0	1885
Peoria	Illinois.	Monroe	48.8	14	49-3	+0.5	56.7	1879	39.8	1876
New Normal	Peoria	Peoria McHenry		33 32					18.5	
Cresco	Vevay	Switzerland .	34.2		37.4	١.	1 .	1	l .	
Logan	Cresco	Howard						1877	4.5	1876
Lawrence	Logan	Harrison				17.2 17.4				
Grand Coteau Maine. Gardiner. Kennebec 22.8 48 28.5 +5.7 31.6 1881 13.9 1859 Maryland. Cumberland Allegany 31.5 29 33.6 +2.1 40.0 1877 24.8 1866 Massachusette. Amherst Hampshire. 27.0 52 31.9 +4.9 36.0 1881 19.5 1872 Newburyport Essex 29.3 15 32.2 +2.9 36.5 1881 22.1 1885 Somerset. Bristol 30.0 16 33.2 +3.2 37.9 1881 21.8 1876 Minnesota. Kalamazoo 26.7 12 31.8 +5.1 38.2 1877 19.8 1886 Minnesota. Minnesota. Minnesota. Minnesota. Minnesota. Menepin 14.3 24 23.6 +9.3 31.6 1877 19.8 1886 Minnesota. Mew Hampshire. Concord. New Hampshire. Concord. New Hampshire. Concord. New Jersey. Morrimack 25.2 26 29.9 +4.7 33.0 1829 12.8 1831 South Orange. Essex 31.6 18 32.4 +2.1 39.8 1881 23.9 1876 North Carolina. Lenol. Coloborstown Oswego. 24.8 35 29.1 +4.3 32.1 1881 14.7 1876 Coloborstown Oswego. 24.8 35 29.1 +4.3 32.1 1881 16.8 1880 North Carolina. Lenol. Champaign. 29.8 56 33.4 +3.6 41.0 1877 83 19.0 1876 Champaign. 29.8 56 33.4 +3.6 41.0 1877 83 19.0 1876 Champaign. 29.8 56 33.4 +3.6 41.0 1877 83 19.0 1876 Champaign. 29.8 56 33.4 +3.6 41.0 1877 83 19.0 1876 Champaign. 29.8 56 33.4 +3.6 41.0 1877 83 19.0 1876 Champaign. 29.8 56 33.4 +3.6 41.0 1877 83 19.0 1876 Champaign. 29.8 56 33.4 +3.6 41.0 1877 83 19.0 1876 Champaign. 29.8 56 33.4 +3.6 41.0 1877 83 19.0 1876 Champaign. 29.8 56 33.4 +3.6 41.0 1877 83 19.0 1886 Dyberry. Linn. 41.6 9 44.0 +2.4 49.5 1886 30.7 1884 Dyberry. Linn. 41.6 9 44.0 +2.4 49.5 1886 30.7 1886 Dyberry. Tenasses. Wayne. 25.1 24 27.8 +2.7 31.8 1881 17.3 1876 Tenasses. Wayne. 25.1 24 27.8 +2.7 31.8 1881 17.3 1876 Tenasses. Wayne. 25.1 24 27.8 +2.7 31.8 1881 17.3 1876 Tenasses. Wayne. 25.1 24 27.8 +2.7 31.8 1881 17.3 1880 Linn. 46.9 7 44.5 -2.4 51.3 1883 34.6 1886 Tenasses. Wayne. 25.1 24 27.8 +2.7 31.8 1881 17.3 1886 South Crandina. Lenol. 70.0 18.0 18.0 18.0 18.0 18.0 18.0 18.0 1	Lawrence Wellington	Douglas Sumner				‡5·3 ‡9·4		1877 1888		
Gardiner Mennebec 22.8 48 28.5 +5.7 31.6 1881 13.9 1859 1860 Massachusatts. Allegany 31.5 29 33.6 +2.1 40.0 1877 24.8 1866 Massachusatts. Hampshire 27.0 52 31.9 +4.9 36.0 1881 19.5 1872 1856 1886 22.1 1856 1886 22.1 1856 1886 22.1 1856 1886 22.1 1856 1886 22.1 1856 1886 22.1 1856 1886 22.1 1856 1886 22.1 1856 1886 22.1 1856 1886 22.1 1856 1886 23.1 1856 1886 23.1 1856 1886 23.1 1856 1886 23.1 1856 1886 23.1 1856 1886 23.1 1856 1886 23.1 1856 1886 23.1 1856 1856 1856 23.1 1856 23.1 1856 1856 23.1 23.1	Grand Coteau	St. Landry	52.7	. 6	53.6	+0.9	57.7	1884	51.8	1887
Cumberland	Gardiner	Kennebec	22.8	48	28.5	+5.7	31.6	1881	13.9	1859
Amherst Hampshire. 27.0	Cumberland	Allegany	31.5	29	33.6	+2.1	40.0	1877	24.8	
Somerset	Amherst	Hampshire			31.9					1872
Kalamazoo 26.7 12 31.8 +5.1 38.2 1877 19.8 1886 Minnesota Minnesota Minnesota 14.3 24 23.6 +9.3 31.6 1877 1.9 1876 Moratana. Fort Shaw Lewis & Clarke 24.9 20 34.8 +9.9 39.7 1875 2.2 1884 New Jersey. Morrimack 25.2 26 29.9 +4.7 33.0 1829 12.8 1831 Now Jersey. Morrimack 25.2 26 29.9 +4.7 33.0 1829 12.8 1831 Now Jersey. Morrimack 25.2 26 29.9 +4.7 33.0 1829 12.8 1831 South Orange Burlington 32.2 25 34.3 +2.1 39.8 1881 23.9 1876 Cooperstown Otsego 27.1 34 27.6 +0.5 33.1 1881 14.7 1876 North Carolina. Caldwell 37.6 16 37.1 -0.5 44.3 1879	Bomerset	Bristol		16		T3.2				
Minnespolis	Kalamazoo Thornville							1877		
Fort Shaw Lewis & Clarke 24.9 20 34.8 +9.9 39.7 1875 2.2 1884 Concord Merrimack 25.2 26 29.9 +4.7 33.0 1829 12.8 1831 Merrimack 25.2 26 29.9 +4.7 33.0 1829 12.8 1831 Merrimack 25.2 26 29.9 +4.7 33.0 1829 12.8 1831 Merrimack 25.2 26 29.9 +4.7 33.0 1829 12.8 1831 Merrimack 25.2 26 29.9 +4.7 33.0 1829 12.8 1831 Merrimack 25.2 26 29.9 +4.7 33.0 1829 12.8 1831 Merrimack 25.2 26 29.9 +4.7 33.0 1829 12.8 1831 Merrimack 25.2 25 34.3 +2.1 39.8 1882 24.3 1872 24.3 1872 24.3 1872 24.3 1872 24.3 1872 24.3 1872 24.3 1881 14.7 1876 1880 16.8 1880 16.8 1880 16.8 1880 16.8 1880 16.8 1880 16.8 1880 16.8 1880 16.8 1880 16.8 1880 16.8 1880 1877 17.4 1872 1876 1880 1877 17.4 1872 1876 1876 1877 17.4 1872 1876 187	Minneapolis	Hennepin	14.3	24	23.6	١.	31.6	1877		
New Irampsarie New	Fort Shaw	Lewis & Clarke	24.9	20	34.8	19.9	39-7	1875	2.2	1
Morestown Burlington 32.2 25 34.3 4.1 39.8 1881 23.9 1876 1870 1877 1881 24.3 1872 24.3 1874 24.4 25.1 24.3 27.4	Concord	Merrimack	25.2	26	29.9	+4.7	33.0		12.8	1
South Orange Sasex 31.6 18 32.4 +0.8 37.7 1881 24.3 1872	Moorestown	Burlington	32.2	25	34.3	١.		!	ļ	ŀ
Palermo.	New York.		31.6	18		+0.8	37.7	1881		
Lenoir	Palermo	Otsego					33· I 32· I		14.7 16.8	
N'th Lewisburgh. Champaign . 29.8 56 33.4 +3.6 41.0 1877 '83 19.0 1876 1872 1872 1872 1877 17.4 1872 1872 1872 1874 1872 1872 1874 1872 1874 1872 1874	Lenoir	Caldwell	37.6	16	37-1	-o. 5	44.3	1879	29. 1	1876
Albany Linn 41.6 9 44.0 +2.4 49.5 1886 31.0 1884 Polk 39.5 17 43.2 +3.7 47.0 1886 30.7 1884 Dyberry	N'th Lewisburgh. Wauseon	Champaign Fulton			33·4 31·2	+3.6 +4.9	41.0 38.8			
Pennsylvania. Wayne 25.1 24 27.8 +2.7 32.8 1881 17.3 1876 1876 1877 16.0 1876	Albany	Linn Polk								
Grampian Hills Clearfield 25.1 24 29.1 -4.0 37.0 1877 16.0 1876 16.0 1876 1880	Pennsylvania.	Wayne	25. 7			į	ł			1
South Carolina Sumter 46.9 7 44.5 -2.4 51.3 1883 43.6 1882 Tennessee. Wilson 39.8 18 40.4 +0.6 49.4 1879 25.0 1876 1882 Texas Te	Frampian Hills Wellsborough	Clearneld	25· I	24	29. I 29. 8	4.0	37.0	1877	16.0	1876
Austin Wilson 39.8 (gibson 38.4 (sibson 38.6 (sibson 38.7 (sibson 38.8 (sibson 39.1 (sibson 1886 39.1 (sibson 1876 46.1 (sibson 1876	tatesburgh	Sumter	[l		í				
Fort Concho Tom Green . 45.6 16 52.1 +6.5 52.1 1888 39.1 1876 New Ulm 53.6 17 54.8 +1.2 60.9 1875 46.1 1876 Vermont. Itrafford Orange 21.5 15 25.6 +4.1 29.5 1851 13.5 1876 Northampt'n Wytheville Wytheville Wythe 34.9 24 35.1 +0.2 42.0 1879 26.0 1876 West Virginia. Randolph 34.1 11 35.2 -1.1 42.5 1879 24.6 1880 Wisconsin Aladison Dane 22.2 25 28.4 +6.2 38.7 1877 11.1 1876	ustin	Wilson				±0.6				1876
Vermont. Vermont.	ort Concho	Tom Green	45.6		52. I	4-6.5	52.1	-		1 .
Wrginia. Northampt'n 41.2 20 38.9 —2.3 51.1 1879 32.7 1876 Wytheville Wytheville 34.9 24 35.1 +0.2 42.0 1879 26.0 1876 Elevetia Misconsin. Randolph 34.1 11 35.2 —1.1 42.5 1879 24.6 1880 Misconsin. Dano 22.2 25 28.4 +6.2 38.7 1877 11.1 1876 Cort Townend Leffareon 12.7	Vermont.		i			+1.2	•	1875	46. 1	1876
Wytheville Wythe 34.9 24 35.1 +0.2 42.0 1879 26.0 1876 West Virginia Randolph 34.1 11 35.2 -1.1 42.5 1879 24.6 1880 Wisconsin Radison Dane 22.2 25 28.4 +6.2 38.7 1877 11.1 1876 Out Townend Leffareon 12.2 25 28.4 +6.2 38.7 1877 11.1 1876	Virginia.	-		- 1	.		' '	- 1		
Randolph	West Virginia.					+0.2			32.7 26.0	
Madison Dane 22.2 25 28.4 +6.2 38.7 1877 11.1 1876	Wisconsin.	- 1	34· I	11	35.2	-1.1	42.5	1879	24.6	1880
Fort Townsend Jefferson 17 0 18 1 18 1 18 1 18 1 18 1	Iadison	,	22.2	25	28-4	+6.2	38.7	1877	11.1	1876
	ort Townsend	Jefferson	41.0	15	44.0	+3.0	45.3	1885	33-0	1884

FROST.

As compared with the preceding month the southern limit of frost in Florida has changed but slightly, no frost being reported south of the northern portion of Lee County. Along the middle and eastern Gulf coast frost was more frequently reported in November than during the current month. In Texas freezing weather for December, 1888. A line representing the frost was reported as far south as Rio Grande City in November, while in December the frost limit was apparently considerably to the northward of that locality.

Alva, Lee Co., Fla.: the heavy frost on the mornings of the 21st and 22d destroyed all tender vegetation.—Report of voluntary observer.

Auburn, Ala.: the weather was generally cool enough to produce light frosts and thin ice frequently during the month. -Alabama State Weather Service Report.

University, Miss.: frosts mostly light, were reported frequently throughout the northern and southern parts of the state. - Mississippi State Weather Service Report.

New Orleans, La.: the first killing frost, with ice formation, occurred in the southern parishes on the 20th.—Report of Louisiana State Weather Service.

Table of comparative maximum and minimum temperatures for December.

State or Terri-	0:	For	1888.	Since establishment of station.				
tory.	Stations.	Max.	Min.	Max.	Year.	Min.	Year.	
		۰	•	۰		1 .	1.	
.labama	Mobile	72.7	25.0	78.8	1884	14.0	1880	
, Do	Montgomery	69.0	24.2	77 · I	1884	8.0	1880	
rizona		57.8	18.3	70.0	1881	-18.0		
Do	Fort Apache	68.7	18.4	70.0	1881, 1882	 8. o		
rkansas	Fort Smith	67.5	21.5	78.1	1883	7.7	1886	
Do	Little Rock	68.7	23.0		1880, 1883	-6.0	1880	
alifornia	San Francisco	64.7	43.1	69.3 82.0	1887	34.0	1879	
Doolorado	San Diego Denver	73.0	7.2	74 · I	1874 1885	32.0	1876	
Do	Montrose	67.5 46.1	9.0	55.5	1885	-25.0 -16.2	1887	
onnecticut	New Haven	54.2	5.0	65.5	1887		1884	
Do		52.2	9.3	60.5	1879	- 2.5		
akota	Fort Busord	53·2 58·3		59.3	1885	- 7·5 -46·0		
Do	Yankton	65.2	- 9.3 5.8	62.0	1875	-34.0		
is. of Columbia	WashingtonCity	60.6	16.2		1873	-13.0		
lorida		72.6	27.5	73.0 81.0	1875	19.0		
Do		73.6 78.8	51.6	88.0	1876	44.0	1876	
eorgia	Atlanta	63.0	20.9	71.0	1879	1.0	1880	
Do	Savannah	69.1	25.0	80.0	1875	15.0		
laho	Boisé City	61.9	10.0	60.5	1885	- 7.3	1884	
linois	Cairo	61.9		72.0	1875	- 7.0	1872	
Do	Chicago	52.9	19.9	68.0	1875	-23.0	1872	
idiana	Indianapolis	56.0	17.4	68. o	1875	-15.0	1876	
ndiana ndian Ter	Fort Sift	56.0 69.3	20.2	77.0	1880	2.0	1879, 80, 84	
₩ <u>a</u>	Dubuque	58· ŭ	8.0	64.0	1877	-23.5	1886	
Do	Des Moines	60.3	11.0	57.0	1883	-19.5	1886	
ansas	Dodge City	70.4	10.9	73.0	1875	-15.0	1876	
Do	Leavenworth	63.0	¦ 9⊷6 j	72.0	1875	-14.0	1880	
entucky	Louisville	62.0	18.0	74.0	1875	- 7.0	1880	
ouisiana	New Orleans	72.3	30.7	78.0	71,75,79,80 1875	30.0	1870, 1880	
Do	Shreveport	74.4	26.5	79.0	1875	10.0	1880	
aine	Eastport	51.7	— 3· 1	54.0	1877	-21.0	1884	
Do	Portland	57·0 58·5	2.5	59.0	1884	-17.0	1872	
aryland	Baltimore	58 - 5	16.5	71.0	1881	- 3.0	1880	
assachusetts .	Boston	60-5	5.3	66.0	1881	-12.0	1883	
ichigan	Marquette	46.6	10.5	59.0	1875	-20.0	1880	
Do	Grand Haven	50.0	10.0	61.0	1877	-12.0	1884	
innesota	Saint Vincent	42.6	16· o	44.8	1884	-47.8	1884	
Do	Saint Vincent Saint Paul	58. r	5.0	56.o	1877	-39.0	1879	
ississippi	Vicksburg	70.2	24.2	79.0	1873, 1875	12.0	1880	
issouri	Baint Louis	59.0 60.9	20.6	74.0	1875 1885	-17.0	1872	
ontana		60-9	- 8.4	67.9	1885	50.0	1884	
Do	Helena	53· 0 66·8	-14.0	50.8	1885	-40.0	1880	
epīraska	North Platte		- 2.g	69.0	1885	-27.0	1879	
_Do	Omaha	65.8	9.6	66.0	1875	-17.0	1879, 1884	
ovada	Winnemucca	57 • 7	11.0	65.0	1878	- 20.0	1879	
w Jersey	Atlantic City	53.0	11.8	64.0	1877	7.0	1880	
w Mexico	Santa Fé	52.5	15.5 3.8 8.8	65.0	1878	-13.0	1879	
w York!	Dunaio	55.2 56.3	3.8	62.0	1875 1881	- 9·o	1880	
Do orth Carolina	New York City	50.3		66.2	1881	- 6.0		
TO CRECIIUS.	Charlotte	68.5	25.8	71.0	1884	- 5.0	1880 1880	
Do	Wilmington Cincinnati	62.0	16.2		1879	10·0 — 8·0	1872	
	Sandualt		15.0	72.0 63.0	1875		1880	
Do	Sandusky Portland	61.0	30.8	65.0	1879 1886	-13.0		
egon Do	Roseburgh	59.0 66.5	31.8	65.4 65.8	1886	3·0 7·0	1879	
nnsylvania	Pittsburgh	62.1	12.2	72.8	1885		1879 1880	
Do	Philadelphia	61.2	12.0	70.0	1005	- 9.0	1880	
ode Island	Block Island		9.5	60.0	1873 1884	- 5.0 - 3.2	1884	
uth Carolina .	Charleston	54·3 67·6	27.9	76.0		- 3.2	1880	
nnessee	Knoxville	57.0	21.5	75.0	1881 1874	13.0	1880	
Do	Memphis	59.8 66.4	22.9	74.0	1074	- 5.0	1876, 1880	
xas	Brownsville	78.0	41.0	92.2	1875 1885	3.0 18.0	1880	
Do	Fort Elliott	72.0	19.4	83.0	1880	10.0	1879	
ah	Salt Lake City		9.0	61.0	1874	-10.0	1870	
rginia	Lynchburgh	57.0	17.2	73.0			1879 1880	
Do	Norfolk	62.7	20. I		1873	- 5.0 6.0	1880	
whington	Spokane Falls		13.9	73.0	73•74•75•79 1886	_17.8	1884	
sahington	Olympia	50·5 57·0	20.0	57.2	1990	-17·8	1879, 1884	
Do - 1		-7.0	20.0	U4 • 2	1885	0.0	*0/Al TOO4	
Do	La Crosso	32	2 -		-0		* ₽ ₽ ₽ ₽ ₽ ₽	
Do	La Crosse	56.0	2.5	60.0	1877	-37.0	1872	
Do	La Crosse Milwaukee Cheyenne	56.0 52.0	2.5 12.8 2.5		1877 1877 1885	-21.6	1872 1884 1879, 1880	

LIMITS OF FREEZING WEATHER.

On chart v are shown the southern and western limits of southern limit is traced from Titusville, Fla., westward over the northern Gulf to Louisiana between New Orleans and Port Eads, and thence into central Texas, where it trends southward into the Rio Grande Valley, somewhat to the westward of Rio Grande City. A line showing the western limit is traced from southeastern Arizona northwestward over central California, and thence northward near the coasts of Oregon and Washington Territory, there being a gradual increase of distance from the coast line from Washington Territory southward to northern California.

TEMPERATURE OF WATER.

The following table shows the maximum, minimum, and mean water temperature as observed at the harbors of the several stations; the monthly range of water temperature; and the mean temperature of the air for December, 1888:

·	T	Mean tem- perature			
Stations.	Max.	Min.	Range.	Monthly mean.	of air at the sta- tion.
Canby, Fort, Wash	o 50.2	° 43·0	7.2	° 47.5	° 47••
Cedar Keys, Fla (1). Charleston, S. C. Eastport, Me. Galveston, Tex	44·9 63·0	48·0 39·5 53·5	6.0 5.4 9.5	51·5 42·3 57·9	47· 28· 56·
Key West, Fla New York City Pensacola, Fla Portland, Oregon	42.8 65.0	62.3 32.5 54.0 39.0	11.5 10.3 11.0 9.0	68.5 37.8 59.6 45.3	67· 34· 50· 43·

(1) Report not received.

PRECIPITATION (expressed in inches and hundredths).

The distribution of precipitation over the United States and Canada for December, 1888, as determined from the reports of nearly 1,500 stations, is exhibited on chart iii. In the table of miscellaneous meteorological data are given, for each Signal Service station, the total precipitation, with the departure from the normal. The figures opposite the names of the geographical districts in the columns for precipitation and departure from the normal show, respectively, the averages for the several districts. The normal for any district may be found by adding the departure to the current mean when the precipitation is below the normal and subtracting when above.

The precipitation for December, 1888, was above the normal in California, the southern plateau region, over an area extending from central Texas northward to the lower Missouri valley, in portions of the upper lake region and upper Mississippi valley, southern Florida, northern part of the middle Atlantic states, in New England (with exception of a small area along the southern coast), and in the Maritime Provinces. In other portions of the United States and Canada the precipitation was below the normal. The most noteworthy features of this month's precipitation were the large excess in southern Florida, the lower Missouri valley, California, and southern plateau, and the marked deficiency in the extreme northwest, Ohio valley and Tennessee, lower lake region, and lower Rio Grande valley. In southern Florida the rainfall was about three times the December normal, and in California, the southern plateau, and lower Missouri valley it exceeded the normal by from 30 to 70 per cent. In the extreme northwest, where the normal December rainfall is very small, about 0.75, only about one fourth of that amount fell this month. In the lower Rio Grande valley, lower lake region, Ohio valley and Tennessee the precipitation was about one-half of the normal, and in the following-named districts it ranged from 30 to 35 per cent. below the normal: east Gulf states, northern and southern Rocky Mountain slopes, northern plateau, and north Pacific coast. It ranged from 85 to 90 per cent. of the normal in the middle and south Atlantic states and central Rocky Mountain slope; and in the upper lake region the deficiency amounted to about 5 per cent. While an average determined from all Signal Service stations in New England shows a slight deficiency as compared with the normal, there was a small but general excess over much the larger portion of that district, the slight deficiency shown in the table being due to the very small precipitation which occurred at a few stations along the southern coast.

DEVIATIONS FROM AVERAGE PRECIPITATION.

The distribution of precipitation over the United States and (5) and the extreme monthly precipitation for December duranada for December, 1888, as determined from the reports ing the period of observation and the years of occurrence:

of for the control of	y precip- nber.
State and station County 80 5 50 50	east.
YE II C G Am't. Year. Am	t. Year.
Arkansas. Lead Hill Boone Inches Years Inches Inch	1886
Sacramento	xo { 1850 1876
Fort Lyon Bent 0.24 12 trace0.24 1.20 1883 0.	
Middlesown Middlesown 3.72 28 5.55 +1.83 7.91 1878 1.	1875
Fort Randall Todd 0.86 30 0.66 -0.20 4.75 1877 0.	ю 1864
Merritt's Island . Brevard 2.61 11 8.55 +5.94 8.55 1888 0.	6 1883
Georgia. Forsyth	
Peoria 2.48 Riley 2.01 MeHenry 2.01 2.01 28 1.87 -0.14 5.67 1873 0. Mediana 0.	8 1857
Logansport Casa 3.56 12 (†) (†) 5.99 1881 0. Vevay Bwitzerland 4.03 23 1.16 -2.87 7.60 1879 1.	
Cresco Howard 1.32 17 2.20 +0.88 2.83 1879 0. Monticello Jones 2.44 33 2.26 -0.18 6.99 1856 0. Logan Harrison 1.31 19 1.86 +0.55 3.30 1882 0.	5 1807
Lawrence Douglas 1.70 24 1.78 +0.08 4.39 1873 0. Wellington Louisiana.	9 1862
Grand Coteau St. Landry 6.59 5 4.03 -2.56 14.43 1884 2.	1885
Maine. Gardiner Kennebec 3.76 48 4.20 +0.44 7.55 1878 0. Maryland.	8 1838
Cumberland Allegany 2-17 17 1-53 -0.64 4-50 1881 0. Massachusetts.	- 1
Amherst Hampshire 3.58 53 4.29 +0.71 7.09 1839 0. Nowburyport Essex 3.75 15 4.76 +1.01 7.24 1852 0. Somerset Bristol 3.46 16 4.13 +0.67 5.67 1884 0.	1875 1875
Kalamazoo Kalamazoo 3.15 12 1.94 —1.21 7.14 1884 1. Thornville Lapeer 2.74 11 1.65 —1.09 5.25 1879 0.	7 1880
Minneapolis Hennepin 1.62 21 0.61 -1.01 5.30 1873 0. Montana.	
Fort Shaw Lewisa Clarke 0.54 18 0.48 -0.06 2.47 1884 0. New Hampshire.	(1011
Concord Merrimack 3-29 8 3-52 +0-23 3-97 1857,'84 1.	- i
Moorestown Burlington 3.21 25 2.69 —0.52 5.77 1865 0. South Orange Essex 3.83 18 4.95 +1.12 7.07 1878 0.	1877
Cooperstown Otsego	0 1874
Lenoir Caldwell 4.09 14 2.70 -1.39 8.70 1877 1.	1 (20-0
N. Lewisburgh Champaign 3.01 16 1.85 -1.16 5.45 1873 1. Wauseon Fulton 2.39 16 1.88 -0.51 4.32 1879 0.	1 1874
Oregon. Linn. 8.72 10 4.28 -4.44 14.21 1887 4. Eola Polk 6.58 16 2.59 -3.99 11.50 1880 0.	4 1870
Pennsylvania. Wayne 2.60 19 3.40 +0.80 5.02 1878 0. Grampian Hills Clearfield 3.68 18 2.89 -0.79 5.12 1872 1. Wellsborough Tioga 4.70 9 5.91 +1.21 9.57 1881 1.	9 107
Wellsborough Tioga 4.70 9 5.91 +1.21 9.57 1881 1. South Carolina. Statesburgh Sumter 3.4c 7 3.98 +0.58 5.87 1884 1.	-091
Austin Wilson 4-61 18 1.57 -3.04 10.20 1870 0. Milan Gibson 3.97 5 2.00 -1.97 7.25 1884 2.	5 1882